

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

COUNTRY	China	REPORT NO.	[REDACTED]
SUBJECT	1. Movement of an Artillery Regiment of the East China Military Area 2. 1952 Militia Program of the East China Military Area	DATE DISTR.	25X1A 10 March 1953
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	25X1A	REFERENCES	

BY CABLE

THE SOURCE EVALUATION IN THIS REPORT IS TENTATIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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1. On 23 January 1953, a heavy artillery regiment attached to the Artillery Command of the East China Military Area arrived in Nanking from Hsuehou (N 34-18, E 117-16). On 2 February this regiment was at T'angshan (N 32-03, E 119-03). After practice maneuvers and an inspection by the military leaders of the East China Military Area, the regiment was to move to the coastal area to assume defense duties. The regiment, which was organized in July 1952, was equipped with 48 Soviet howitzers² of the latest model.
2. During 1952 the East China Military Area carried out the following militia program:³
 - a. In accordance with instructions from the Revolutionary Military Council, expanded militia units in all hsien and cities, except for a few special regions.
 - b. Transferred, trained, and equipped 24,855 militia leaders and cadres from field army or military district troops.
 - c. Recruited about 70,000 new militia personnel and removed 196,000 persons from militia units.⁴ In December the militia force of the East China Military Area totaled 3,444,810 men.⁵
 - d. Carried out 903 anti-bandit operations. Militia units, in cooperation with field army and military district troops, killed 2,374 bandits and captured 1,355 weapons in the course of these operations.
 - e. Assigned 2,500,000 militia members to sentry duties and to road and depot guard posts.
 - f. Enlisted about 173,000 persons in the Chinese Communist army to support the anti-America aid-Korea campaign.

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3. In 1953 the East China militia is to be expanded by 150,000 men.

25X1A [REDACTED] Comments.

- 25X1X 25X1A 1. [REDACTED] reported the arrival in Nanking of 42 Soviet artillery pieces in early April 1952. Included among these weapons were 45-mm, 76-mm, and 122-mm guns, which were to be assigned to a newly organized artillery regiment. [REDACTED] 25X1A
- 25X1X [REDACTED] reported that in late June of 1952 there were two newly organized howitzer regiments and a rocket launcher artillery regiment in East China. 25X1X
2. The standard Chinese Communist independent artillery regiment consists of three battalions of 12 guns each, or a total of 36 guns.
- 25X1A 3. See also [REDACTED] for a report [REDACTED] concerning militia training in the East China Military Area. 25X1X
4. It seems impossible to reconcile this statement with the expansion of the militia reported in paragraph 2(a). Whether the 196,000 men "removed" from the militia include the 173,000 men reported in paragraph 2(f) as enlisted in the regular army is not known.
5. Available information indicates that the militia strength for all of China is about 6,000,000 men. However, the Chinese Communists have claimed a total militia strength of 12,800,000. Probably that figure and the one reported here for East China refer to the number of individuals carried on the roster, rather than to personnel in active, organized units.

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